including pilferage and theft of power, high transmission and distribution losses, low realisation and non-viable tariff structure leading to an increasing gap between the cost of supply and realisation per unit. The Conference of Chief Ministers'/Power Ministers' held on 3.3.2001 resolved that there is a need to speed up implementation of Power Sector Reforms. The conference *inter alia* resolved that:

(i) Energy audit at all 11 KV feeders within next 6 months and accountability to be fixed at the local level.

(ii) Full metering of all consumers by December, 2001.

(iii) Launch of effective programmes for identifying and elimination of power thefts in next two years.

(iv) Current operations in distribution would need to reach break even in two years and achieve positive returns thereafter.

(c) NTPC and NHPC are not in the business of transmission and distribution of power. Therefore, the question of taking action against the employees of the NTPC & NHPC does not arise.

Proposal to increase unit cost under watershed development programme

2824. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to increase the unit cost under watershed development programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA] : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a proposal to this Department to increase the unit cost under

watershed development programme from Rs. 4000/- per hectare to Rs. 6000/- per hectare.

(c) The increase in cost norm from Rs. 4000/- to Rs. 6000/- per hectare under watershed development programme is under consideration with the Department.

Complaints regarding shortage of potable water in Tirupati Nagar Society, Gujarat

2825. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of complaints regarding shortage of potable water in Tirupati Nagar Brahma Samaj Society of Raiya Rural Municipality, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total scheme-wise funds allocated to the administration for supply of potable water during the last three years; and

(d) whether a large number of complaints regarding financial embezzlement have been received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) No complaints regarding shortage of potable water and financial embezzlement in Tirupati Nagar Brahma Samaj Society of Raiya Rural Municipality, Gujarat have been brought to the notice of Government of India.

Government of India has not released any funds under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP)/Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to Tirupati Nagar Brahma Samaj Society of Raiya Rural Municipality, Gujarat.